

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 SAM-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 NIC-01

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NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01

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R 100920Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9031

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USUN 617

AMCONSUL ZAGREB UNN

USNATO 1170

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR YO EG UR

SUBJ: SADAT - TITO TALKS

REF : BELGRADE 1617

1. IN CALL ON AMBASSADOR, EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR SAAD AFRA, WHO HAD ATTENDED ALL PLENARY SESSIONS OF TITO-SADAT TALKS ON BRIONI MARCH 28-30, SAID SADAT'S PRINCIPAL PURPOSE IN TALKS WAS TO GIVE TITO TRUE PICTURE OF SIX-DAY WAR AND PARTICULARLY SOVIET ROLE.

2. ACCORDING TO AFRA, TITO NOW HAS CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF "PERFIDIOUS BEHAVIOR" OF SOVIETS RE BOTH FAILURE TO MEET PROMISES AND COMMITMENTS ON ARMS SUPPLY, AND PRESSURE ON EGYPTIANS TO AGREE TO CEASEFIRE BEFORE EGYPTIANS HAD ACCOMPLISHED OBJECTIVES. AFRA SAID TITO WAS "SHOCKED" AT SADAT'S REVELATION THAT VINOGRADOV
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ATTEMPTED CONVINCE SADAT SYRIANS WANTED CEASEFIRE WHEN IN

FACT SADAT HAD PRIVATE ASSURANCES FROM ASAD THAT THIS WAS NOT CASE.

3. SADAT ALSO CLARIFIED TO TITO CURRENT US-EGYPTIAN RELATIONSHIP AND SADAT'S PERSONAL TIES WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER. SADAT CITED "BASIC CHANGE" IN US POSITION ON MIDDLE EAST SAYING THIS WAS REASON US-EGYPTIAN COOPERATION COULD PLAY USEFUL ROLE IN BRINGING ABOUT PERMANENT SETTLEMENT. TITO ALSO TOLD THAT SADAT HAD COMPLETE CONFIDENCE IN PRESIDENT NIXON AND SEC KISSINGER - IN MARKED CONTRAST WITH HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD SOVIETS.

4. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION RE WESTERN PRESS SPECULATION THAT TITO HAD WARNED SADAT OF DANGERS OF EXCESSIVE RELIANCE ON AMERICANS, AFRA SAID THERE WAS NO REFLECTION OF THIS IN TALKS IN WHICH HE PARTICIPATED. HE ALSO DOUBTED TITO TOOK THIS LINE WITH SADAT IN PRIVATE SESSIONS, SAYING SUCH SPECULATION LIKELY HAD ITS ORIGIN IN STATEMENTS BY OTHER ARAB LEADERS - LIKE IRAQIS, LIBYANS AND SYRIANS - WHO MAY HAVE TAKEN THIS LINE IN THEIR TALKS WITH YUGOSLAVS.

5. AFRA TERMED MEETINGS BOTH NECESSARY AND WORTHWHILE BECAUSE TITO AND OTHER YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS HAD DISTORTED PICTURE OF MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS DURING AND SINCE THE YOM KIPPUR WAR.
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